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An Interview With Former Dakota Senator George McGovern

Following are key questions and answers from an interview with George McGovern by Fay S. Joyce:

Q. What do you think of the Reagan policy in Central America, and what would you do differently? Specifically, would you cut off aid to rebel groups in Nicaragua and accept the presence of the Sandinistas, or continue aid and continue pressure for change? Would you even continue pressure for change?

A. No, I would cut off all military operations in Central America forthwith. I would halt any further shipments to the government in El Salvador of a military nature, even the economic aid. I would cut back drastically unless there's a change in those death squads and the other human rights violations.

In Nicaragua, I would terminate the so-called covert operation. It's the poorest guarded secret in the world, everybody knows that we're arming and equipping a force of 10,000 or 12,000 men for the purpose of overthrowing that Sandinista Government. I would give up on that effort and try to come to terms with the Sandinista Government on both the diplomatic and the economic front.

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